

JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Monday - 19 November 1973

25X1A 1. (Unclassified - GLC) Angus Thuermer called to say he had received a call from Bob Novak who apparently is lining up a column for tomorrow's paper. Novak told Thuermer that he understood there was public testimony in the Watergate hearings to the effect that the formation of the "plumbers" had had the blessing of CIA. When Thuermer tried to pin him down on this, Novak said his source of information indicated that the President had made this statement to a group of Senators Wednesday night. Novak was interested in any reference we could give him to public testimony on the subject. We gave Thuermer several references to Dick Helms' testimony of 21 May 1973 before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and told him we thought it important to distinguish between the "plumbers" operation on the one hand and the domestic intelligence work in which [REDACTED] was involved. Mr. Helms had signed off on the [REDACTED] memorandum but the role which the Agency was to perform was strictly that of a foreign intelligence adviser.

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2. (Confidential - GLC) Received a call from Trip Mosbacher, on John Lehman's staff in the White House. He asked if we could provide him with some information about John Fletcher Prouty and the recent book he has written. He said Prouty has asked to meet with some people in the White House and they would like any information we could give them. I told him I would look into this and be back in touch with him tomorrow.

3. (Confidential - JMM) Discussed with John Goldsmith, Senate Armed Services Committee staff, problems of the press play that the Andrew St. George article and other allegations against the Agency are now getting. He agrees with Senator Symington's thesis about different elements in the Washington establishment who are trying to discredit the Agency and Helms.